

the Hon. Secretary of the Avicultural Society, although the latter has kindly drawn my attention to a record by Leverkühn on the authority of Macpherson in the J.f.O., 1890. This bird apparently was wild. I can find no American records of a similar hybrid. Before I pass round the specimen, along with Common Teal and Shoveler ducks for comparison, I should like to draw your attention to the remarkable mixture of the colouring of both parents which my specimen displays. The bill is longer and more spatulate than that of the Teal—less so than the Shoveler. The head exhibits much of the green of the Shoveler with the brown poll of the Teal, while the Teal's 'bridle' has become distorted to appear on the hybrid's cheeks as two irregular white 'windows' framed in black. The chest displays the maroon belly-colour of the Shoveler, with the Teal's black spots superimposed. The underparts and flanks are pure Teal. On the back the hybrid is more Teal than Shoveler, being ashy-grey with black pencilling. The scapulars resemble the Shoveler's but lack the blue and white. The wing combines the characteristics of both parents, the slate blue of the Shoveler's shoulders and the bright green and black of the Teal's.

In conclusion I should like to remark that a reproduction in 'Nichol's Birds of Egypt' of a supposedly wild hybrid between a Teal and a Pintail displays a very similar pair of 'windows' on the cheeks, to those shown by my specimen. This point calls for further study. Do hybrid duck, in which one parent is a Teal, always display these 'windows.'

Dr. J. M. HARRISON and Major A. G. L. SLADEN made remarks on this specimen and other hybrid ducks.

A new Genus and Species of Babbler and New Races of a Wood-Hoopoe, Swift, Barbet, Robin-Chat, Scrub-Warblers and Apalis from West Africa.

Dr. W. SERLE exhibited and described the following:—

KUPEORNIS, new genus.

Description.—Similar to *Phyllanthus* Lesson, but bill smaller, weaker, relatively broader at the base and less compressed laterally. Nostrils more slit-like (as in *Turdoides* Cretzschmar); feet more slender; otherwise in general shape and proportions about the same.

Frequents the high trees and occasionally the undershrubs of the primary forest, associating with others of its kind in small vocal parties.

GENOTYPE.—KUPEORNIS GILBERTI, new species.

Description.—Forehead and crown dark chestnut, becoming paler on the nape. Lores, cheeks, ear coverts, and a narrow supercilium white, lightly washed with rust. Mantle, back and scapulars olive-brown washed with fulvous, becoming rusty-brown on the rump and upper tail coverts. Wings and tail blackish-brown, the secondaries and inner primaries washed on the outer web with fulvous and the rectrices fringed on the outer web with rusty-brown. Chin and throat pure white sharply demarcated from the breast which with the under wing coverts, belly, flanks, and thighs is rufous-brown. Under tail coverts rusty-brown.

Distribution.—Only known from the primary forests of Kupé Mountain, British Cameroons at an altitude of 5,000 to 6,000 feet.

Type.—In the British Museum. Adult male. Kupé Mountain 4° 50'N, 9° 40'E, at altitude of 5,000 feet, Kumba Division, British Cameroons. 10 April, 1948. Collected by Dr. William Serle. Collector's No. C.1905. Brit. Mus. Reg. No. 1949, 14, 1.

Measurements of type.—Wing 111, culmen from base of feathers 18, tail 70, tarsus 32mm.

Soft parts.—Iris greyish-white ; feet greenish-grey ; bill brownish above, dirty white below.

Remarks.—The new form was compared with the British Museum material by myself and with the American Natural History Museum material by M. Jean Delacour to whom I am greatly indebted. The latter points out its relationship in colour pattern and structure to *Lioptilornis rufocinctus* (Rothschild), a species not represented in the British Museum. *Kupeornis gilberti* is certainly not closely related to *Lioptilornis nigricapillus* (Vieillot) the genotype of *Lioptilornis*, and *Lioptilornis rufocinctus* should perhaps be transferred from *Lioptilornis* to *Kupeornis*.

An immature male in the series has the white throat and ear coverts sparsely spotted with brown, the underparts more rufous than in the adult, and the outer web of the secondaries and the inner primaries and the wing coverts washed with rufous.

Measurements of one other male and four females from the type locality.—*Male*.—Wing 106, tail 76, tarsus 32, bill 17. *Females*.—Wings 111, 115, 117, 117 ; tails 74, 77, 79, 76 ; tarsi 31, 34, 33, 33 ; bills 16, 17, 17, 17mm.

In the field the new form recalls in its actions, loud calls and close gregariousness *Phyllanthus atripennis atripennis* (Swainson) and certain *Turdoides* species. It is mainly arboreal moving actively about the branches with long hops and occasional short flights.

Named after my indispensable African skinner Gilbert Nkwocha.

PHENICULUS BOLLEI OKUENSIS, new race.

Description.—Distinguished from *Phaeniculus bollei bollei* (Hartlaub) and *Phaeniculus bollei jacksoni* (Sharpe) by the greatly reduced amount of white on the head, the white area being restricted above to the forehead and forepart of the crown and below to the chin and forepart of the throat. The ear coverts, sides of the face and a narrow supercilium are dark metallic green. Further distinguished from *P. b. bollei* by the bluish purple rather than coppery lesser wing coverts and the absence of purplish gloss on the inner secondaries.

Distribution.—Only known from the montane forest of Lake Oku, altitude 7,000 feet, in the Bamenda Division of British Cameroons.

Type.—In the British Museum. Adult male, Lake Oku, 6° 10'N, 10° 25'E, Bamenda Division, British Cameroons. 15 October, 1948. Collected by Dr. William Serle. Collector's No. C.2779. Brit. Mus. Reg. No. 1949, 14, 2.

Measurements of type.—Wing 134, culmen 49, tail 177, tarsus 19mm.

Soft parts.—Iris brown, eyelids pink, bill and feet red.

Remarks.—One of a noisy party in the tree tops in the primary forest bordering the crater lake at Oku.

The measurements in mms. of two other males and two females of this new form all obtained at Oku are :—

	<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>
Wing ...	131, 128	118, 122
Culmen ...	46, 47	40, 35
Tail ...	166, 178	171, 182
Tarsus ...	20, 20	21, 19

APUS ÆQUATORIALIS BAMENDÆ, new race.

Description.—Similar to *Apus æquatorialis æquatorialis* (Muller) but general colour of the upper and underparts blackish-brown, several shades darker than *A. a. æquatorialis* and similar in shade to *Apus æquatorialis lowei* Bannerman. From *A. a. lowei* and *Apus æquatorialis furensis* Lynes it is distinguished by the absence of white on the lower breast and belly.

Distribution.—Bamenda, British Cameroons.

Type.—In the British Museum. Adult female, Bamenda, 5° 55'N, 10° 10' E, altitude 5,000 feet, British Cameroons, 8 July, 1948. Collected by Dr. William Serle. Collector's number C.2395. Brit. Mus. Reg. No. 1949. 14. 3.

Measurements of type.—Wing 201, culmen 10, tail 92, tarsus 15mm.

Soft parts.—Iris dark brown, bill black, feet blackish.

Remarks.—These Swifts frequented the escarpment at Bamenda and the cliffs in the neighbouring hills within a radius of twenty miles. The sexes are similar. Measurements of three other adult birds obtained at the type locality:—

	<i>Male.</i>	<i>Females.</i>
Wing ...	201	203, 197
Culmen ...	10	10, 10
Tail ...	90	90, 85
Tarsus ...	14	16, 13

BUCCANODON DUCHAILLUI BANNERMANI, new race.

Description.—Similar to *Buccanodon duchaillui duchaillui* (Cassin) but differs in its larger size.

Distribution.—The Highlands of the Bamenda Division, British Cameroons.

Type.—In the British Museum. Adult Male, Bamenda 5° 55'N, 10° 10'E., altitude 4,500 feet, British Cameroons. 7 July, 1948. Collected by Dr. William Serle. Collector's No. C.2371. Brit. Mus. Reg. No. 1949. 14. 4.

Measurements of type.—Wing 87, culmen 15, tail 50, tarsus 21mm.

Remarks.—Measurements of the eight other birds, all adults, of this form collected in the highlands of the Bamenda Division between 4,000 and 6,000 feet. (Sexes about the same):—

Wing ...	80, 83, 84, 84, 85, 85, 86, 86 mm.
Culmen	17, 13, 16, 16, 17, 15, 16, 15 ..
Tail ...	45, 47, 45, 48, 45, 48, 47, 48 ..
Tarsus	21, 20, 23, 22, 21, 21, 21, 22 ..

Measurements of the eight adult birds of this form collected in the low-lying southern part of British Cameroons in the Kumba Division between 500 and 1,500 feet:—

Wing ...	71, 72, 73, 76, 76, 77, 78, 78 mm.
Culmen	14, 15, 12, 14, 15, 14, 13, 15 ..
Tail ...	37, 38, 39, 39, 38, 42, 41, 43 ..
Tarsus	18, 19, 19, 18, 19, 19, 18, 19 ..

Averages.—

	<i>Bamenda</i>	<i>Kumba</i>
Wing ...	84	75 mm.
Culmen ...	16	14 ..
Tail ...	47	40 ..
Tarsus ...	21	19 ..

Additional wing measurements of adult *Buccanodon d. duchaillui* in the British Museum series:—

Gold Coast	75, 76, 77, 77, 78 mm.
Southern Cameroon ...	74, 74, 77, 77, 78, 78 mm.
Uganda	75, 75, 76, 78, 78, 79, 80 mm.

This new race is named after Dr. David Bannerman whose work has done so much to encourage field ornithologists in West Africa.

COSSYPHA INSULANA GRANTI, new race.

Description.—Similar to *Cossypha insulana* Grote, but the forehead, crown and nape are concolorous with the mantle and back, being olive-brown instead of blackish.

Distribution.—The forests of Kupé Mountain and the adjacent uplands, at an altitude of 3,000 to 5,500 feet, British Cameroons.

Type.—In the British Museum. Adult male, Kupé Mountain 4° 50'N, 9° 40'E, at altitude of 4,500 feet, British Cameroons. 18 November, 1947. Collected by Dr. William Serle. Collector's No. C.1123. Brit. Mus. Reg. No. 1949. 14. 5.

Measurements of type.—Wing 73 ; tail 52 ; bill 12 ; tarsus 27mm.

Soft parts.—Iris brown ; bill black, feet grey.

Remarks.—The nominate race is described from the forests of Fernando Po. The species has not previously been recorded from the mainland of Africa.

Its distribution as related to *Cossypha isabellæ* Gray is interesting. From the forests of the Bamenda highlands, Manenguba Mountain (only 15 miles north of Kupé), and Cameroon Mountain, *C. isabellæ* only has

been recorded. From the forests of Kupé Mountain and Fernando Po (which geographically are separated by the Cameroon Mountain) *Cossypha insulana* only has been recorded.

Measurements.—One other adult male has wing 70 ; bill 13 ; tail and tarsus damaged. One immature male has wing 70 ; tail 50 ; bill 12 ; tarsus 26. Three adult females have wings 71, 68, 66 ; tails 52, 46, 44 ; bills 11, 12, 13 ; tarsi 26, 25, 25.

Immature plumage.—An immature male has the upper parts blackish, thickly spotted with orange, the spots smaller and more profuse on the head, larger and fewer on the back and mantle. Underparts mottled pale orange and blackish shading into greyish-white in the middle of the belly. Wings and tail as in adult. *Soft parts.*—Iris grey-brown ; feet olive-grey ; bill dark brown above, yellow below.

Habits.—An unobtrusive, solitary, silent species seen on or near the ground in the primary or mature secondary forest.

Named after Capt. C. H. B. Grant who gave me much helpful advice when I was working out my Cameroon collection.

. *BRADYPTERUS MARIAE YOUNGI*, new race.

Description.—Upperparts similar to but slightly darker in shade than *Bradypterus mariae mariae* Madarasq, *Bradypterus mariae usambarae* Reichenow, and *Bradypterus mariae granti* Benson. Below it differs from all three, but is nearest to *B. m. usambarae* but darker than that form ; the breast is buffish-brown and the flanks and thighs dark olive-brown. It differs from the description of *Bradypterus mariae boultoni* Chapin by its darker colouration. Its habitat is the montane forest undergrowth, near the forest edge, and in the old tangled second-growth. Not found in the grassland.

Distribution.—The forested slopes of the Cameroon Mountain between 4,500 and 6,000 feet, British Cameroons.

Type.—In the British Museum. Adult male, Cameroon Mountain, altitude 4,500 feet, British Cameroons. 1 January, 1949. Collected by Mr. Charles G. Young. Collector's No. C.2878. Brit. Mus. Reg. No. 1949. 14. 7.

Measurements of type.—Wing 60 ; culmen 11 ; tail 54 ; tarsus 24mm.

Remarks.—Two other adults, a male and female, were collected by Mr. Young on 19 December 1948 at 6,000 feet and an immature male and female by myself on 30 June, 1947 and 12 April, 1948 respectively.

<i>Measurements.</i> —	<i>Wing</i>	<i>Culmen.</i>	<i>Tail.</i>	<i>Tarsus.</i>
Adult male	57	12	56	23 mm.
Adult female	58	12	56	23 „
Immature male	57	10	41	22 „
Immature female	54	10	52	22 „

Immature plumage.—Above, as adult, below, dull yellow chin, throat and belly ; dark olive breast, and olive-brown flanks, thighs, and under tail coverts. *Soft parts.*—Iris and feet grey-brown ; bill blackish above and yellowish below, tipped dusky.

With its comparatively short, narrow-webbed tail, its general colouration, and its forest habitat, this new form appears to be the Cameroon Mountain representative of *Bradypterus mariae*.

Bradypterus camerunensis Alexander, a much paler bird, also short-tailed and narrow-webbed, is likewise known only from the Cameroon Mountain. Its habitat is imperfectly known. Boyd Alexander (Ibis 1915, p. 501) found it in the "thick growth," but he does not say whether in the grass or in the forest; and the identity of the grass inhabiting *Bradypterus* heard on the Mountain by Bates (Handbook, p. 355) is uncertain. For the present it is best regarded as a species. Capt. C. H. B. Grant agrees with this conclusion.

This new race is named after my friend Mr. Charles G. Young who collected the type.

✓ *BRADYPTERUS MARÆ MANENGUBÆ*, new race.

Description.—Above, similar to *Bradypterus mariae youngi* Serle. Below, quite different from *Bradypterus mariae mariae* Madarasq, *Bradypterus mariae usambaræ* Reichw., *Bradypterus mariae granti* Benson, *B. m. youngi*, and the description of *Bradypterus mariae boultoni* Chapin, being pale brown on the chin shading into fulvous-brown on the throat, breast, belly, flanks and under tail coverts, darkest in shade on the flanks and palest on the centre of the belly. Its habitat is the mountain forest, in the undershrubs and in the dense shrubery of old clearings.

Distribution.—The Manenguba Mountain forest between 6,000 and 6,500 feet, British Cameroons.

Type.—In the British Museum. Adult female, Manenguba Mountain, 5° 5' N, 9° 50' E., altitude 6,500 feet, British Cameroons. 19 March, 1948. Collected by Dr. William Serle. Collector's No. C.1635. Brit. Mus. Reg. No. 1949. 14. 8.

Measurements of type.—Wing 59; culmen 12; tail 54; tarsus 23mm.

Soft parts.—Iris brown; bill blackish-brown; feet light brown.

Remarks.—An adult male, with small gonads but apparently adult, collected at the same locality on 24 March differs from the female only in having the chin and upper throat paler. It measures: Wing 61; culmen 12; tail (moulting) 35; tarsus 23mm.

Field habits.—Both these birds were solitary, and difficult to observe as they threaded their way with brisk movements through the dim forest undergrowth, keeping close to the ground. The female uttered at times a loudish "chip, chip, chip . . ." note.

Its short tail, general colouration, call, and forest habitat indicate its relationship to the *Bradypterus mariae* group. (See Grant and Mackworth-Praed in Ibis, 1941, pp. 441-455).

APALIS JACKSONI BAMBULUENSIS, new race.

Description.—Differs from *Apalis jacksoni jacksoni* Sharpe and *Apalis jacksoni minor* Ogilvie-Grant as follows:—Male, the forehead, crown and nape are jet-black, instead of grey, and the olive-green back, mantle and

① *Bradypterus mariae* *Bradypterus mariae*

rump are several shades darker. Female, the upper parts from the forehead to the rump are slightly darker in shade, the lores and ear coverts are blackish instead of dark grey, and the grey chin and throat patch is a shade darker. In size the new race is very slightly larger than *A. j. jacksoni* and considerably larger than *A. j. minor*.

Distribution.—Only known from the montane forest near Lake Bambulue, altitude 6,000 feet, in the Bamenda Division of British Cameroons.

Type.—In the British Museum. Adult male, near Bambulue Lake, 5° 50'N, 10° 10'E., altitude 6,000 feet, 10 miles south of Bamenda, British Cameroons. 14 September, 1948. Collected by Dr. William Serle. Collector's No. C.2670. Brit. Mus. Reg. No. 1949. 14. 6.

Measurements of type.—Wing 54; culmen 9; tail 64; tarsus 18 mm.

Soft parts.—Iris brown; feet fleshy-brown; bill black.

Remarks.—*Measurements*.—One other adult male has wing 55; tail 64; culmen 9; tarsus 18. An adult female has wing 53; tail 54; culmen 10; tarsus 18mm.

The only other specimen of this race is a female collected by Bates near the type locality. Bannerman in recording this specimen under *A. j. minor* (Bds. of West Africa, Vol. 5, p. 96) comments on its large size. Its measurements are:—wing 52; tail 54; culmen 10; tarsus 18mm.

Habitat.—Primary montane forest

A new Race of the Common Hawk Cuckoo from Ceylon.

Mr. W. W. A. PHILLIPS sent the following description and the type for exhibition:—

HIEROCOCCYX VARIUS CICELLÆ, new race.

Description.—Differs from *Hierococcyx varius varius* Vahl, of India in being distinctly darker in all plumages. There is no appreciable difference in size. In the adult plumage the ash-grey of *H. v. varius* is replaced throughout with a deeper slate-grey and the light rufous by deep rufous. The effect ventrally is to give the abdomen a more distinctly striped effect. Similarly in the young bird the grey brown and rufous of the upperparts are deeper in colour and ventrally the streaks are bolder.

Distribution.—Apparently confined, as a breeding resident, to the wet-zone hill regions of the Central Province of Ceylon, but occurs also in the hills of the Uva Province and the Low-country wet-zone. Specimens examined from Agradatana and Lindula (Dimbula District) and Kandy.

Type.—In the British Museum. Adult male (testes not enlarged). Collected by Mrs. Cicely Lushington on the Caledonia Estate, Lindula, Dimbula District, Central Province, at 4,400 ft., on 21 January, 1948. Brit. Mus. Reg. No. 1948. 57. 40.

Measurements of type.—Wing 195; culmen from base 27; tail 161; tarsus 22mm.